

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Omori. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The invention relates to a communication terminal with a signal reception path that has a bandwidth widening device for artificially widening the bandwidth of a received signal in the communication terminal. In one embodiment, the bandwidth widening device operates at a first sampling rate, and the echo compensation device operates at a second sampling rate. A sampling conversion device converts an output signal from the bandwidth widening device at the first sampling rate to the second sampling rate, and the output of the sampling rate conversion device is connected to an input of the echo compensation device.

Omori discloses an echo canceller provided in which a down-sampling circuit converts a 16-kHz sampling frequency of a wideband voice signal output to an 8-kHz sampling frequency of a narrow-band voice signal supplied at an input terminal. Referring to col. 2, lns. 8-10, Omori states that there are "means for converting the second sampling frequency of the speaker output voice signal to the first sampling frequency of the microphone input voice signal." (Emphasis added). In this context, the Examiner notes that the A/D of the microphone operating at 8 kHz inherently comprises a LFP at 8 kHz, which is defined by the sampling rate of the A/D converter.

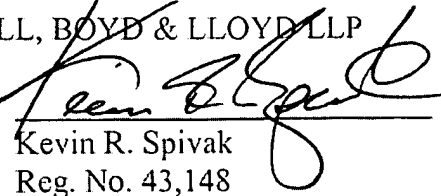
In the claimed invention, on the other hand, the target-sampling-rate depends on the sampling rate of the echo compensation device, not on the sampling rate of the microphone-AD-converter. Despite the fact that the sampling rate of the microphone-AD-converter is identical to the sampling rate of the echo compensation device (in Omori), these two sampling rates can also be different in practice. For example, in the claimed invention, the bandwidth widening device operates at a first sampling rate, the echo compensation device operates at a second sampling rate which is different from the first sampling rate, and a sampling rate conversion device is provided for conversion of an output signal from the band width widening device at the first sampling rate to the second sampling rate. For these reasons, Omori fails to disclose the claimed invention.

Since the recited structure and method are not disclosed by the applied reference, claims 8 and 10-13 are patentable.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance. An indication of the same is solicited. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to

charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees which are due and owing, referencing Attorney Docket No. 112740-971.

Respectfully submitted,

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